



COMMUNITY RESOURCE PACKET

Kids deserve
happy, healthy
and safe childhoods



It's
YOUR / TURN
to make a difference



Prevent Child Abuse
New York

1-800-CHILDREN
www.preventchildabuseny.org

It's YOUR TURN

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

Dear Friends,

All children in New York deserve a healthy, happy and safe childhood. This April, it's your turn to make a difference for the kids in your neighborhood!

To raise awareness of April as Child Abuse Prevention Month, Prevent Child Abuse New York (PCANY) and its sister chapters around the nation mobilize Pinwheels for Prevention campaigns. As part of these campaigns, New Yorkers make a promise to prevention by distributing pinwheels and hosting educational events throughout the state. Pinwheels are a symbol of a happy, carefree childhood and the belief that getting it right for kids early on is less costly than trying to fix problems after things have gone wrong. Doesn't every child deserve this opportunity?

Everyone has a role to play in preventing child abuse and supporting families. You can get involved by planting pinwheel gardens in a public place, wearing pinwheel label pins, displaying car and storefront window clings, hosting events for families, and signing a promise to prevention. Businesses, schools, community-based organizations, civic groups, educators, volunteers, decision-makers and families participate.

PCANY offers you the tools to be an active part of Child Abuse Prevention Month. Please contact us to learn more about how to mobilize a campaign in your community. It's your turn to make a difference for a child!

Your partner in prevention,

Prevent Child Abuse New York
1-800-CHILDREN
www.preventchildabuseny.org



Some of the information in this packet is drawn from Prevent Child Abuse Florida's Pinwheels for Prevention Advocate Resource Booklet [http://www.ounce.org/CAP2010/Advocate_Booklet.pdf] and Prevent Child Abuse New Jersey's It's Your Turn to Make a Difference Child Abuse Prevention Month Campaign [<http://www.preventchildabusenj.org/cap/>]

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

Table of Contents

Pinwheels for Prevention	4
Get Involved	6
Make a Difference in Your Community	7
Promises for Prevention	10
Child Abuse Prevention Month Proclamation	13
Effective Prevention Strategies	14
Guidelines for Talking about Child Abuse	16
Media Tips	18
Sample Letter to the Editor	20
Sample Press Release	21
Facts about Child Abuse	22
Warning Signs of Abuse	23
Pinwheels Activities	24

Its YOUR TURN

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

Pinwheels for Prevention

Pinwheels for Prevention is a nationwide public awareness campaign. Pinwheels for Prevention was created by Prevent Child Abuse America (PCA America) and its state chapters. More than just an awareness campaign, the goal of Pinwheels of Prevention is to engage people in taking action to prevent abuse and neglect from happening in the first place.

The campaign is built around the symbol of the pinwheel. Pinwheels are a happy and uplifting token of childhood. They represent PCA America's efforts to change the way our nation thinks about prevention and are the centerpiece of the growing movement of people and organizations committed to stopping child abuse before it starts.

If you or your organization is interested in taking part in the Pinwheels for Prevention Campaign or if you need documents in a different format please contact Jennifer Dailey at 518-445-1273 ext 105 or jdailey@preventchildabuseny.org.



April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

Pinwheels: The Symbol of Child Abuse Prevention

Insight gained through recent social marketing research, conducted by FrameWorks Institute for Prevent Child Abuse America, has caused us to take another look at how we talk about prevention and the tools we use to present our message to the public.

The Blue Ribbon has been, and will continue to be, successfully used as a national symbol of child abuse awareness. Our goal, however, is to steer focus away from the *problem* of child abuse toward the *solutions* of effective prevention. To accomplish this, we are promoting another symbol, a Pinwheel. The pinwheel is reflective of the bright future all children deserve and our belief that getting it right early on is less costly than trying to fix it later.

The theme of this resource packet, *It's Your Turn to Make a Difference*, highlights how the choices we make every day can create positive change. Collectively and individually, we can create healthy and supportive communities through advocacy efforts, program development, collaboration, inclusion and education.

Your agency or group may want to consider using *Pinwheels for Prevention* as symbols of “change,” acknowledging how parenting has evolved over the years as a result of changes in social, cultural, and demographic trends in families. The pinwheel symbol will appeal to children, families and advocates and is easily adaptable for marketing the message through a variety of mediums. It also encourages us to “change” the way we communicate this prevention message to our audience from one of “awareness of the problem” to “solutions of effective prevention”

It's YOUR TURN

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

Get Involved

As an individual, local organization or corporation, we invite you to become a part of the Pinwheels for Prevention campaign.

As an Individual You Can:

- * Write to your elected official about the importance of preventing the abuse and neglect of New York State's children.
- * Purchase pinwheels and plant your own pinwheel garden.
- * Talk about prevention in your community.
- * Organize a small fundraiser to raise awareness in your community.
- * Serve on a committee or board.

As a Local Organization You Can:

- * Organize your own Pinwheels for Prevention campaign by purchasing pinwheels and planting a garden.
- * Join Child Abuse Prevention Month activities in April or organize activities in your community
- * Consider how you can incorporate child abuse prevention into your work.
- * Discuss child abuse prevention at your conferences and meetings
- * Collaborate locally.

As a Corporation You Can:

- * Sell paper pinwheels at checkout or other special pinwheel-themed items in your stores.
- * Sponsor pinwheel activities in New York State.
- * Print messages on your bags or insert bill-stuffers to bring attention to the issue of child abuse prevention.
- * Invite your employees to show their support by purchasing and displaying pinwheels.
- * Create a pinwheel garden on your company's premises in April to show your support during Child Abuse Prevention Month.
 - * Contribute your company's professional expertise to help us advance this campaign and our organization's mission.
 - * Donate or support the purchase of advertising space to help continue getting the word out.



April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

Make a Difference in Your Community

Social relationships influence every area of our daily life, from our personal health to the safety of our neighborhood to the development of our children. Getting to know your neighbors makes your community safer and provides individuals and families with support. Yet a recent study found that Americans' social networks are shrinking dramatically and nearly 25 percent of Americans say they have no one to talk to about important matters or personal problems. Ties to community and neighborhood have "withered" and people have fewer family confidants as well. Causes for this social shift have not been determined, but may reasonably include:

- * The more transient nature of families today and decreased likelihood that grown children will live near their parents in the communities in which they grew up
- * Increased reliance on communicating through technology (cell phones, e-mail) which promotes the development of a wider, less-localized network of weak ties rather than the stronger ties built by face-to-face interaction that can offer real support every day and in times of crisis
- * The hectic pace of daily life, especially for dual income families, which limits the time available to invest in new relationships

So how do we reverse this social shift and reconnect individuals and families to the community? The following ways include simple ways to build a strong environment that will allow children to grow into healthy, productive citizens who will in turn give back to communities.

It's YOUR TURN

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

Make a Difference in Your Community

Talk to your neighbors

Be willing to look out for one another's children. Encourage a supportive spirit among parents in your community.

Mentor a new parent in your neighborhood

Sometimes families go from receiving a lot of support when a baby first arrives to getting little or no support just a few months later. This can leave a parent feeling overwhelmed. Check in often with a new parent. Sometimes just holding or changing the baby will allow a new mom or dad to finish an errand or take a few minutes for themselves.

Be a friend to the parents that you know

Ask how their children are doing. Ask them how they are doing! If a parent seems to be struggling, offer to baby-sit, run errands or lend a friendly ear. Remind them that raising is a difficult job.

Keep your neighbors safe

Offer to pick up your neighbors mail when they are out of town and let them know you can keep an eye on their home. When street lights burn out, report the outage to the city to avoid dark places in your neighborhood.

Distribute materials to educate and support families in public places

Parenting is tough work! It is important to let families know that you support the love, devotion and healthy discipline they offer their children. It's also important to offer information and tips about the developmental milestones.

Plant a pinwheel garden in a community gathering place

Pinwheels are a sign of happy, carefree childhoods; the kind that every kid deserves to experience. Host a public event to launch the garden. Take photos and send them to your local newspaper along with a statement of your support.



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Make a Difference in Your Community

Host an event for children

Inspire them to color pinwheels and post them in a public place. Arrange for the activity to be lead by a childcare provider, allowing parents a break and the chance to enjoy conversation with other adults.

Decorate and sell \$1 paper pinwheels

Post them in a visible location within public buildings or local stores. Challenge a neighboring community in a friendly contest to post the most!

Be a good role model

Parents are always looking for new parenting techniques and you can help provide them by setting a good example.

Be active in your community

Developing playgroups for new families at community centers, libraries or schools ultimately contributes to the well-being of children.

Volunteer your time

Start a Circle of Parents support group, spend time mentoring a child, or start a family program of your own.

Call or write your elected officials

Ask your representatives to support funding and legislative initiatives for parent support and child abuse prevention programs.

Remember ...

Anything that supports the children parents, grandparents and caregivers in your community helps strengthen families and reduce the likelihood of abuse.

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

Community Campaign: Promises for Prevention

Promises for Prevention is a pledge campaign that does not solicit money. Rather, it solicits promises, asking individuals to pledge to do something tangible to help, support or ease the job of parents.

Promises for Prevention campaigns encourage everyone in our communities to take responsibility for providing the support and assistance that all parents need. These campaigns are a strategy for the primary prevention of child abuse and neglect.

The goal of primary prevention is to stop child abuse and neglect from ever happening. Primary prevention strategies create supportive environments that empower parents and help them access the tools they need to raise their children in safe, loving, and nurturing homes. Primary prevention efforts are often found in places where families gather: neighborhoods, workplaces, shopping centers, libraries, religious settings, schools, and clubs.

Promises for Prevention campaigns accomplish primary prevention by increasing understanding of one of the solutions to the problem of child abuse—supporting parents—and by mobilizing citizens to engage in that solution.

As with other pledge campaigns, individuals complete pledge cards indicating what their commitment will be. Pledge cards can be distributed in several ways: at speakers' presentations, at informal gatherings of parents and friends, at community meetings, at public display sites, or through the print media.

Pledge cards can be used as an educational hand-out or pledges can be returned to a Promises for Prevention campaign leader for counting and publicizing.



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Community Campaign: Promises for Prevention

Example pledges

- * Offer to baby-sit free of charge, so parents can get a break.
- * Arrange an on-going weekly or bi-weekly meeting with another mother (or a small group of mothers) so that mothers can talk over experiences or problems, while children play together.
- * If you are a grandparent, take care of a different grandchild each week to relieve some pressure on their parents.
- * If you are a supervisor, encourage and support flex and comp-time arrangements so parents may deal with day-to-day situations and children's emergencies without the added stress of repercussions at work.
- * If you are a preschool teacher, establish informal monthly meetings for parents of young children to provide information on parenting and schooling.
- * Canvas members of a social club and seek people available to provide babysitting for children under two years of age.
- * Be a good listener for the parents you have contact with. Let them talk about their trials and triumphs.
- * If you are a doctor or work at a doctor's office, locate and distribute positive literature on children's health issues and activities.
- * Work with the PTA to bring a parenting class to school and offer babysitting for parents who may otherwise be unable to attend.
- * Offer rides to neighborhood children's activities.
- * Volunteer as a big brother or club leader to help out kids and allow parents some free time.

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Promises for Prevention: Sample Pledge Card

I promise to make a difference in the life of a child. Some of the things I will do in my community include:

- * Really listen to a child. I understand that children need undivided attention when they talk. I will be patient and remember that they move at a different place in their little worlds.
- * Make special time for a child that I care about.
- * Run an errand, bake cookies or prepare a meal for a new mother in my neighborhood.
- * Provide amusement for restless children in a waiting room.
- * Smile and acknowledge that "it's tough work" when I see a parent coping with a stressful situation in public.
- * Remind the caregivers that I know what a great job they are doing.
- * Listen to parents when they tell me about their challenges.
- * Advocate for programs that provide families with education and support—starting when their child is born!

Write in your own promises!

I promise this is honor of _____

My signature _____



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Sample Child Abuse Prevention Month Proclamation

Whereas, the public cares deeply about child abuse, and a majority report that child abuse is a very important moral issue to them;

Whereas, preventing child abuse and neglect is a community problem that depends on involvement among people throughout the community;

Whereas, child abuse and neglect not only directly harm children, but also increases the likelihood of long-term physical and mental health problems, alcohol and substance abuse, continued family violence and criminal behavior;

Whereas, child maltreatment occurs when people find themselves in stressful situations, without community resources, and don't know how to cope;

Whereas, the majority of child abuse cases stem from situations and conditions that are preventable in an engaged and supportive community;

Whereas, child abuse and neglect can be reduced by making sure each family has the support they need in raising their children in a safe, nurturing environment;

Whereas, effective child abuse prevention programs succeed because of partnerships created among social service agencies, schools, faith communities, civic organizations, law enforcement agencies, and the business community;

Therefore, I do hereby proclaim

April as Child Abuse Prevention Month and call upon all citizens, community agencies, faith groups, medical facilities, and businesses to increase their participation in our efforts to support families, thereby preventing child abuse and strengthening the communities in which we live.

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

Effective Prevention Strategies

When relating stories of successful prevention strategies, it is important to connect the dots from the program to the prevention of child abuse. Given the public's overwhelming tendency to think about child abuse in its worst forms, the term "child abuse prevention" holds little meaning, outside of reporting. Thus, describing a parent support program as an example of child abuse prevention will not make sense to them without some explanation.

The Children's Bureau connects these dots well in its Child Abuse Prevention Month Packet. The following is adapted from it:

Researchers, practitioners, and policy makers are increasingly thinking about personal, family, and environmental factors that strengthen families and reduce the risk of abuse and neglect within families. Research shows that while certain risk factors have detrimental effects on children and families, other "protective" factors can mitigate those effects and provide benefits, resulting in greater resilience for parents and children. Successful family support activities and child abuse prevention programs are designed to promote these protective factors.

Protective factors are conditions in families and communities that, when present, increase the health and well-being of children and families. These attributes serve as buffers, helping parents to find resources, supports, or coping strategies that allow them to parent effectively, even under stress. Research has shown that the following protective factors are linked to a lower incidence of child abuse and neglect:

- * *Nurturing and attachment*
- * *Knowledge and parenting and child development*
- * *Parental resilience*
- * *Social connections*
- * *Concrete support for parents*



April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

Effective Prevention Strategies

Research has found that effective family support and child abuse prevention programs bolster protective factors by:

Facilitating friendships and support

Offer opportunities for parents in the neighborhood to get to know each other, develop support systems, and take leadership roles. Strategies may include sports teams, potlucks, classes, advisory groups, board leadership, and volunteer opportunities

Strengthening parenting

Develop ways for parents to get support on parenting issues when they need it. Possibilities include classes, support groups, in-home visits, tip sheets in pediatricians' offices, and resource libraries.

Responding to family crises

Offer extra support to families when they need it, as in times of illness, job loss, housing problems, and other stressors.

Linking families to service opportunities

Provide referrals for job training, education, health care, mental health, and other essential services in the community.

Supporting children's social and emotional development

Some programs specifically focus on helping children articulate their feelings and get along with others. When children bring home what they have learned in the classroom, parents benefit as well.

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

Guidelines for Talking About Child Abuse and Neglect

Spell out your preventive solution at the top of the communication

People often believe the only solutions to child abuse lie within the legal system. To make a case for prevention—a vague word on its own—we need to describe actual prevention activities and explain how and why they are successful. Connect the dots for people so that prevention programs make sense to them.

Include a clear definition of the problem, its causes, and solutions while making your case for prevention

Be careful not to focus on people in the abusive situation, but rather on the predictable situations in which abusive behavior happens: poverty, divorce, addiction, stress, limited education, job loss, social isolation, etc. Instead of referencing parents, talk about the families that children live in and the pressures surrounding them. Prevention programs connect families to needed resources and ensure healthy development of children. Such programs are likely to engage public interest and support more than those perceived to help “bad” parents.

Avoid vivid, dramatic details

Don't focus on the worst cases, nor on sexual abuse as the dominant form of abuse. These approaches only serve to reinforce people's understanding of abuse as an exclusively criminal issue. When exposed primarily to dramatic cases (which the media favor), people tend to conclude that abuse is inevitable because it involves bad people who are bad parents. The solution that makes sense to them, then, is to remove children from danger and punish those responsible.

Whenever possible, tell stories of efficacy

Demonstrate how programs and policies have worked for the benefit of children by predicting and addressing abusive situations before they happened. Doing so increases the idea of situations, not people, as the appropriate focus for child abuse interventions.



April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

Guidelines for Talking About Child Abuse and Neglect

Forget the numbers for explaining the prevalence of abuse

People believe it is a big problem and they tend to overstate it numerically. It is not a good idea to pair prevention activities and announcements with the release of your state's annual child abuse statistics. Remember that if you give these numbers to the media, the story will almost certainly lead with them.

Stop fighting the fight we've won

People understand the seriousness of child abuse. It is time to shift to deepening citizen's understanding of the problem and its solutions. We believe child abuse prevention is not receiving adequate public support NOT because people aren't outraged by the issue, but because they STOP at outrage and are not aware of credible solutions beyond reporting.

Try getting multiple actors into the picture

Avoid communications that imply that abuse is only a family issue, solved by outsiders who "save" or "punish." Try to broaden the discussion to the larger community.

Don't issue confusing or conflicting calls to action

Don't ask outsiders to both befriend and report troubled families. The message should either be about prevention—family support, parent education, family-friendly policies, child development initiatives—or reporting. Promoting support asks the reader for empathy, while issuing calls for people to report asks for vigilance or judgment.

It's YOUR TURN

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

General Media Tips

Stay on message

Narrow your message to one or two central points that you want to get across and stick to them. You do not have to explicitly answer every question a reporter poses. Answer each question in a way that reflects your key messages. Do not repeat something a reporter says that is not part of your point, even to disagree with it. For instance, by saying "child abuse is not just dramatic cases of parents killing children," you remind your audience of parents killing children.

Emphasize that April is about solutions to child abuse

It's about prevention, but don't leave the work "prevention" unexplained. Describe the solutions. Keep in mind reporters may try to move you back to drama and tragedy, but you can stress that child abuse is a problem with solutions that don't receive the attention they should. Explain the American public cares deeply about child abuse, but doesn't know what can be done about it.

Reporters will want statistics

Instead of supplying them with traditional child abuse statistics on reports, substantiations, and fatalities, give them stats on efficacy. What works? How many people does your program or a program you're involved with reach with services? What has been the impact of such services?

Letters to the editor are a great way to reach a general audience

Keep them short and focused and be sure to include a call to action, whether it is to support specific legislation or to learn more about a program.



April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

General Media Tips

Sample language

Here is some general language about Child Abuse Prevention Month:

The month of April is devoted to celebrating everything we can do to transform our communities into places that care about—and actively support—families and children. By ensuring that all parents in our community have access to quality childcare, affordable health services, parenting education resources, and substance abuse and mental health programs, we make progress toward what the month stands for: April is Child Abuse Prevention Month.

The majority of child abuse cases stem from situations and conditions that are entirely preventable in an engaged and supportive community. A community that cares about early childhood development, parent support and maternal mental health, for instance, is more likely to see families nurturing children who are born healthy and enter school ready to learn. Cities and towns that work to create good school systems and who come together to ensure that affordable housing is available in good, safe neighborhoods are less likely to see stressed, isolated families who don't know where to turn.

Child Abuse Prevention Month is about connecting all of these dots so that the solutions to child abuse receive the attention the public craves. In a recent poll, 89 percent of Americans reported that child abuse was a "very important" moral issue to them. But it's not enough to care about the problem and address its consequences. We have to pay attention to the kinds of efforts that will prevent it from happening in the first place. So this April, learn more about what you and your community can do to support child abuse prevention. It's a shared responsibility and we're stronger together.

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

Sample Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

New York participates in a nationwide tradition of observing April as Child Abuse Prevention Month. Throughout the month, concerned citizens and organizations host public awareness events and educational activities focused on drawing attention to the urgent need to stop child abuse before it starts.

This April, be on the lookout for Pinwheels for Prevention—the signature campaign of Prevent Child Abuse America and its state chapters. Why pinwheels? Pinwheels are a happy and uplifting symbol of the bright future all children deserve. They are the centerpiece of a growing movement committed to stopping child abuse before it starts. This April you'll see them popping up in front yards, at community events and in front of city halls.

It's your turn to make a difference! Please consider taking action to prevent child abuse. A few specific things you can do in April and throughout the year include planting a "pinwheel garden" in a community gathering place, calling and writing your elected officials to ask them to support funding for child abuse prevention, and being a friend to the parents you know. For more ideas about getting involved, please visit www.preventchildabuseny.org or call 1-800-CHILDREN

Sincerely,

[Your Contact Information]



April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

Sample Press Release

Child Abuse Prevention Month 20__
Pinwheels for Prevention Sweep Across the State

Your location—Date of Release—They're popping up in front yards, at community events and in front of City Halls. They're spinning in the winds of change blowing around the state and nation this April during Child Abuse Prevention (CAP) Month. They're pinwheels and thousands of them have been distributed statewide by Prevent Child Abuse New York (PCANY) as a demonstration of the fast-growing belief that we can prevent—not just intervene in—child abuse and neglect.

The "Pinwheels for Prevention" movement is bringing the belief in prevention to life in a number of ways in communities around the state. The movement is based on the belief that we must do more than simply respond to cases of abuse through prosecution and intervention—we need to provide programs and policies that focus on child development, engage communities and create conditions that allow parents to be the kinds of parents they want to be. These programs and policies include strategies such as home visiting, parent education, mutual self-help support, mental health services and substance abuse treatment.

[Insert Information about Your Local Events and Activities]

Pinwheels for Prevention are the centerpiece of a growing movement of citizens and organizations committed to stopping child abuse before it has a chance to start. According to Prevent Child Abuse America, the economic impact of child abuse and neglect is \$103.8 billion a year. Research documents pervasive and long-lasting effects of child abuse and neglect on children, their families and society as a whole. Effective child abuse prevention programs ensure the health and wellbeing of children and families, allowing children to grow into adults who prosper and contribute to society.

"Overcoming the tremendous imbalance between what we invest on the front end to prevent abuse and neglect before it happens and what we spend as a consequence after it occurs is critical for our children, families and communities," said Christine Deyss, executive director of Prevent Child Abuse New York. "Priorities such as intervention and prosecution are important elements in protecting our children, but it is clear that more and more Americans are taking a stand for the early and comprehensive prevention of abuse, not just responding to it after it occurs."

The \$103.8 billion cost of child abuse and neglect includes more than \$33 billion in direct costs for foster care services, hospitalization, mental health treatment and law enforcement. Indirect costs of over \$70 billion include loss of productivity, as well as expenditures related to chronic health problems, special education and criminal justice services.

Pinwheels for Prevention is the grassroots signature campaign for PCAA and its 43 chapters nationwide. The pinwheel has come to symbolize a person's commitment to truly preventative measures, such as home visitation services, parent education and the overall re-prioritization of our policies, programs and resources to ensure that every child is provided with a healthy, safe and nurturing home and an involved, supportive and caring community.

For more information, contact [Your Name] at [Your Number]

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

Facts About Child Abuse

What is Child Abuse and Neglect?

- * Physical abuse—an injury to a child that is not an accident. This may include beating, burning, biting, kicking, cutting, shaking, or punching a child.
- * Emotional abuse—maltreatment of a child that may involve criticizing, insulting, yelling, swearing, manipulating, rejecting or withholding love.
- * Sexual abuse—any sexual contact with a child, including exhibitionism, photographs or films, pornography, prostitution, rape, or fondling.
- * Neglect—failure to provide for a child's basic physical, emotional, medical or educational needs.

Who Abuses Children?

Most often the abuser is someone the child knows, such as a parent, relative, neighbor or friend of the family.

Where Does Child Abuse Happen?

Wherever children are. Where they live, sleep, learn or play.

How Often does Child Abuse Occur?

In New York State each year nearly 80,000 children are known to be abused or neglected. Many more cases never get reported.



April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

Warning Signs of Abuse

Children who are abused may show physical and behavioral signs. You may be a child's only lifeline to safety. Please pay attention to the treatment of children around you. Child abuse is everyone's business.

Children who have been abused or neglected may be:

- * Nervous around adults or afraid of certain adults
- * Reluctant to go home (coming to school early or staying late, for example)
- * Very passive and withdrawn or aggressive and disruptive
- * Tired often or complaining of nightmares, or not sleeping well
- * Fearful and anxious
- * Showing sudden changes in behavior or school performance

Possible signs of physical abuse:

- * Unexplained burns, bruises, black eyes and other injuries
- * Apparent fear of a parent or caretaker
- * Faded bruises of healing injuries after missing school

Possible signs of sexual abuse:

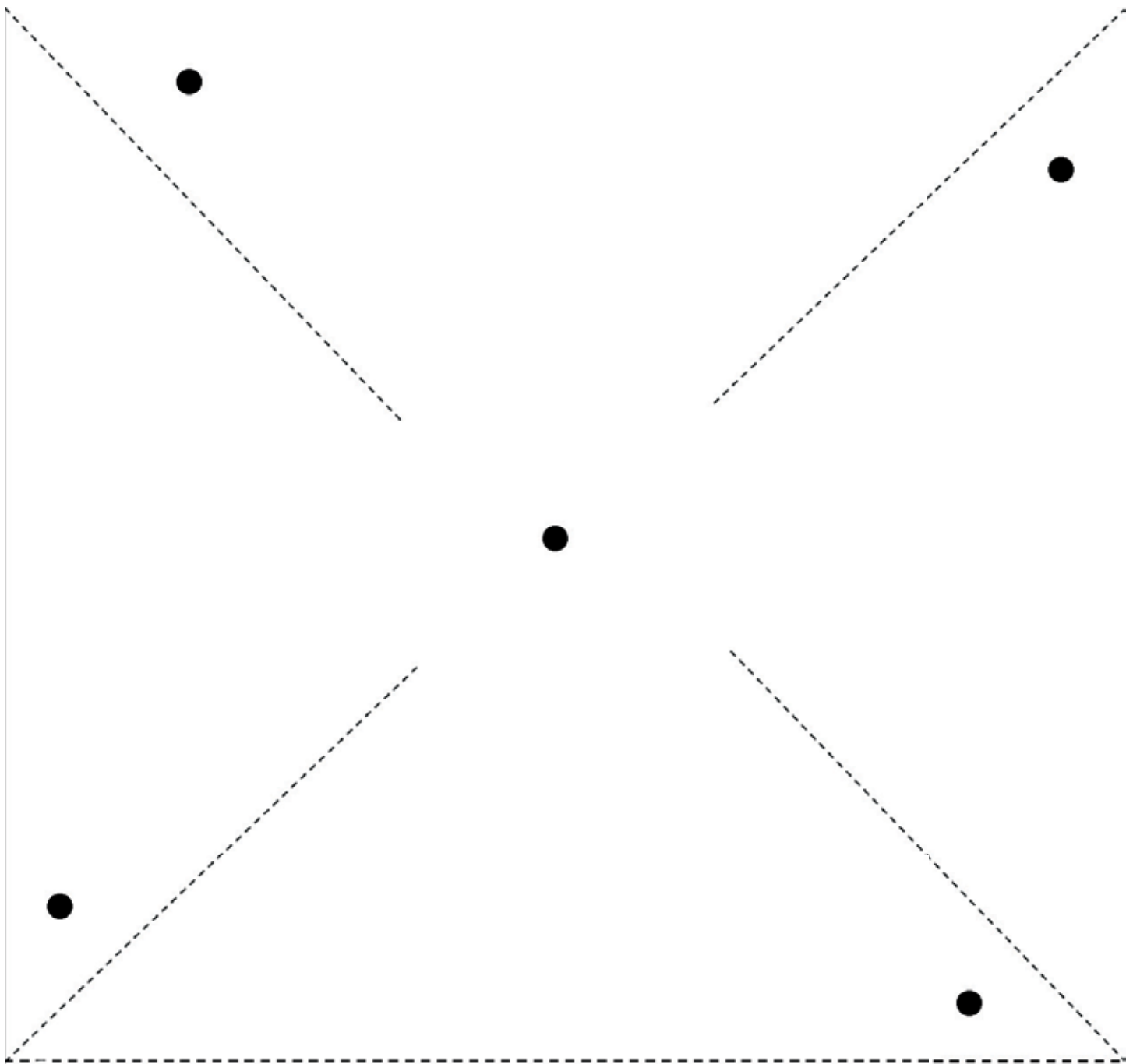
- * Has nightmares or other sleep problems without an explanation
- * Sudden mood swings: rage, fear, insecurity or withdrawal
- * Leaves "clues" that seem likely to provoke a discussion about sexual issues
- * Writes, draws, plays or dreams of sexual or frightening images
- * Develops new or unusual fear of certain people or places
- * Refuses to talk about a secret shared with an adult or older child
- * Talks about a new older friend
- * Suddenly has money, toys or other gifts without reason
- * Thinks of self or body as repulsive, dirty or bad
- * Exhibits adult-like sexual behaviors, language and knowledge

Possible signs of neglect:

- * Missing school frequently
- * Begging for or stealing money or food
- * Lacking needed medical or dental care
- * Being frequently dirty
- * Using alcohol or other drugs
- * Saying there is no one at home to take care of him or her

Possible signs of emotional abuse:

- * Acting overly mature or immature for the child's age
- * Extreme changes in behavior
- * Delays in physical or emotional development
- * Attempted suicide
- * Lack of emotional attachment to the parent



1. Color both sides of your pinwheel
2. Cut along the bottom dotted line and along the diagonals starting at each corner.
3. Using a hole punch, punch holes at the indicated areas. ●
4. Gently bend each punched hole toward the center hole, once all holes meet, fasten with a paper fastener
5. Put end of fastener in straw

Place in flower pot or garden and watch your pinwheel take bloom.



MAKING YOUR OWN PINWHEEL



Here's a craft project that will allow children a chance to participate in your community's "Pinwheels for Prevention" activities. This activity can be used in schools, daycare centers, after-school programs, church groups, etc.

Pinwheel Wind Collector

Materials

- A push pin
- A square piece of construction paper (about 8.5" by 8.5")
- A sharpened pencil with an eraser
- Scissors

Procedure

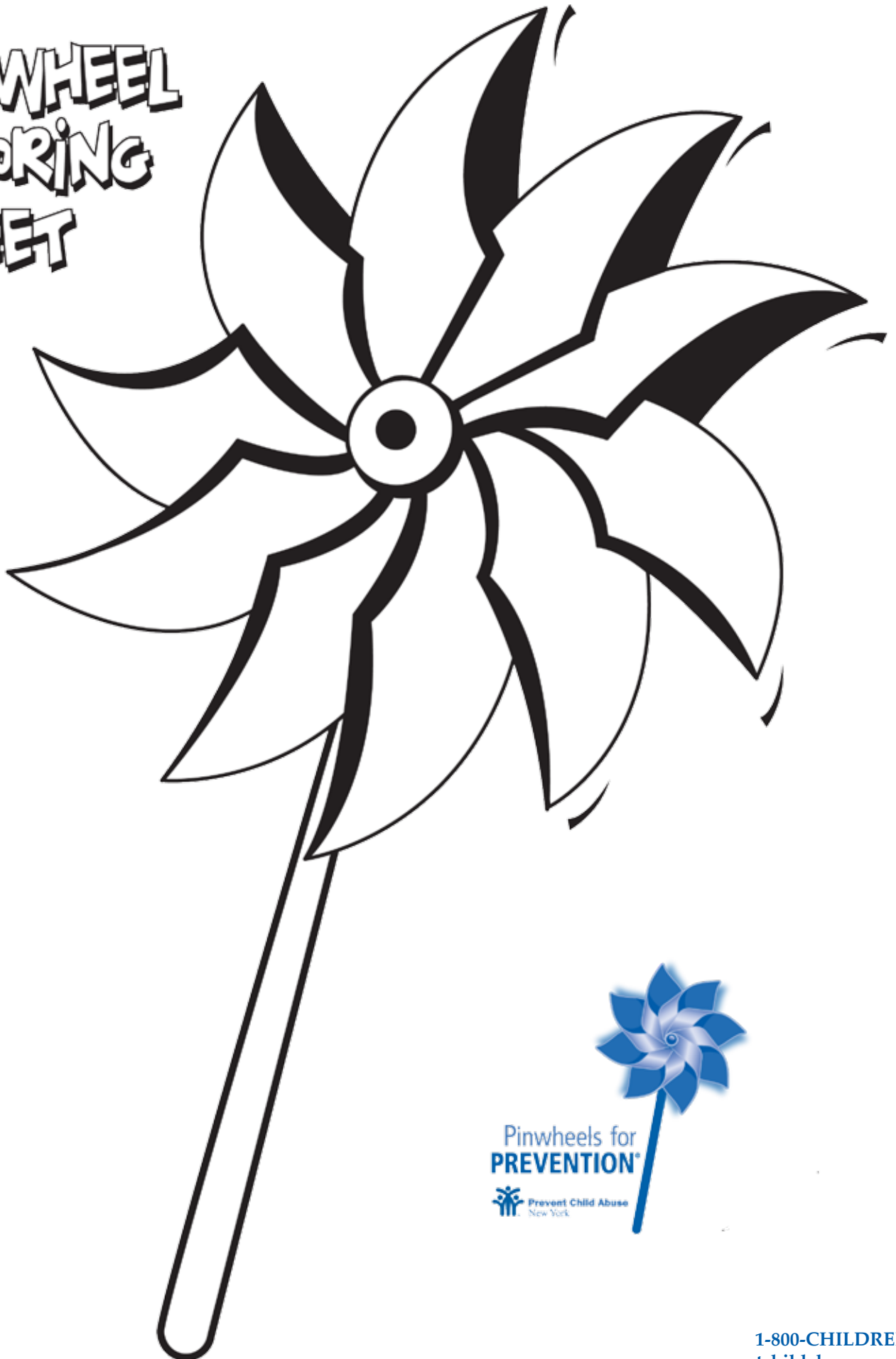
1. Lay the square paper flat on a table and draw a line diagonally from each corner to the opposite corner.
2. Mark the center of the square where the two lines cross and punch a small hole through it with the pencil tip.
3. Next, cut along each line stopping about an inch from the hole in the center of the square.
4. Take the pin and punch a hole in the top left corner of each of the four flaps. (No two holes should be next to each other.)
5. Pick up a flap at a punched corner and carefully curve it over toward the center hole, securing it with the pin.
6. Repeat this for the other flaps.
7. When all four flaps are held by the pin, carefully lift the paper without letting the flaps unfurl.
8. Lay the pencil flat on a table and carefully push the point of the push pin into the side of the eraser.
9. Now your pinwheel is complete and ready to go.
Pick up the pinwheel near the pencil point and let it catch the wind.



Pinwheels for
PREVENTION

 Prevent Child Abuse
New York

PINWHEEL COLORING SHEET



Pinwheels for
PREVENTION



1-800-CHILDREN
www.preventchildabuseny.org

About Prevent Child Abuse New York

Since 1980, Prevent Child Abuse New York has inspired parents, policy makers and community members to put the needs of kids first. Focusing on community activities and public policies that prioritize prevention right from the start, we strive to create a world where child abuse and neglect never occur.

Through statewide leadership and collaboration, our work ensures the health, development and prosperity of New York's children, families and communities.

Contact Us

Prevent Child Abuse New York
33 Elk Street 2nd Floor
Albany, NY 12207
518-445-1273
info@preventchildabuseny.org

Parent Helpline

1-800-CHILDREN

Visit Us on the Internet

www.preventchildabuseny.org
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